

domestic violence services. A report found that sexual assault programs affiliated with domestic violence programs receive less funding and serve fewer clients. The report also discovered that stand alone sexual assault programs provide more comprehensive services to clients than multi-service programs. A report on domestic violence & sexual assault services in North Carolina was unable to conclude that stand-alone sexual assault programs are more effective than multi-service programs ("Consensus Practices in the Provision of Services to Survivors of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault" - Rebecca J. Macy & Dania M. Ermentrout). The Council funds 16 stand alone sexual assault programs and 69 dual programs that administer domestic violence and sexual assault funding.

- An online survey was created to discover (1) if other states had statutes that mandated what sexual assault programs must provide, (2) what funding sources were used to sustain the programs and (3) if a sexual assault or domestic violence commission existed. The survey was sent to sexual assault programs and sexual assault coalitions in the following states: Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The N. C. Coalition Against Sexual Assault listserv was the vehicle for delivering the survey. Program responses were received from: Georgia, Iowa, Louisiana and Virginia. Coalition responses were received from Iowa and Virginia. Iowa and Georgia have sexual assault program statutory requirements similar to North Carolina. None of the surveyed states have a sexual assault or domestic violence commission.

## Recommendation

- The NC Domestic Violence Commission is bringing forth one recommendation for your consideration at this time. The Commission recommends the creation of a separate North Carolina sexual assault commission.

The study found:

- There are three North Carolina state departments that provide funding to sexual assault programs: Administration, Crime Control & Public Safety and Health & Human Services. There is no formal coordination of efforts among these departments.
- None of the states that responded to the online survey have a sexual assault or domestic violence commission yet a N. C. Domestic Violence Commission member indicated that convening various stakeholders on the issue of domestic violence is of great value.